MR. SPEAKER: I have not called you. You have already had your chance by putting the same type of question by way of a supplementary. I am not going to give you a second chance. It is not fair. The same issue cannot be raised twice a day.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I will give a chance to everybody. Why are you worried?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGRAWAL (Chandni Chowk-Delhi) Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Delhi Rent Control Act was passed by this House and thereafter all the political parties of Delhi opposed it contending that the enactment of the legislation in this form was wrong and that it should be amended. Calls for Delhi Bandh were also given several times. The tenants and traders of Delhi are extremely agitated against this legislation. The Government of Delhi called on all-party meeting and sent its recommendations to the Central Government. I request the Government to take immediate steps for amending the Act.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South Delhi): Sir, I want to raise an extremely important issue in the House. It requires to be stated in some detail, but you have fixed a time limit of one minute.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I give you one and a half minutes.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Sir, I shall try to finish within that time. Day in and day out, the Government harps on secularism, but it appears to me that we are gradually becoming culture-secular. The difference between religion and culture is being forgotten.

Sir, you must have had many occasions to travel by train. Early in the morning at around 7 o' clock cassettes of devotional songs used to played in the trains. A few days back, I had an opportunity to travel by Rajdhani Express from Baroda to Delhi and was so surprised that film songs on disco tunes were being played at seven in the morning. The passenger came to me to register their unhappiness and also gave me a representation signed by 80 persons. When I asked the officials, to my amazement they showed me a directive from the Railway Ministry which said:

[English]

"No religious music will be played in trains. And this order is for compliance with immediate effect".

[Translation]

Sir, I want to ask whether devotional songs are a prerogative of any particular religion. May be, some people have allergy to the names of Ram, Krishna and Shiv, but the hon. Railway Minister cannot have it because the word Ram is an intrinsic part of his name. Hundreds of cassettes are available today with songs without any of these names. 'Allah tero nam, Ishwar tero nam"—This is not a song associated with any religion. Similarly,

"Aye maalik tere bande hum,
Aise hon hamarey karam,
Neki par chaleyn aur badi se dareyn,
Taki hanste huye nikley dam"

Is this a song of any religion? Further,

"Humko man ki Shakti de, hum Vijaya karen,
Doosron ki Jaya se pahele, Khud ki jaya karen"–

To which religion does this song belong?

Sir, I want to ask, under what provocation has this directive been issued? Religious songs will not be played, but disco music tunes will be forced on us. My information is that recently, on the occasion of the festival of Janma Ashthami, you yourself had enjoyed devotional songs for three hours. Devotional songs create a spiritual atmosphere in trains and the passengers have a feeling of contentment. It is my request to the Government that these silly directions should be withdrawn immediately and playing of devotional music in the trains should be restored.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN (Indore): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Smt. Sushma has just now pointed out how our culture is being undermined in the name of secularism. I want to point to another similar blow being ministered to our country's culture. I do not want to go into the question whether the World Beauty Contest proposed to be organised at Bangalore in Karnataka should be held or not; that is to be decided by a general opinion. But we will have to seriously consider certain issues related to this contest. Several women's organisations as well as some other organisations are opposing the World Beauty Contest. This opposition has reached such a pitch that suicide squards are getting ready to protest. I would like to bring to your notice certain implications. I was really surprised how the Indian women suddenly started becoming world beauties. Is there some international conspiracy?

Sir, this is something that requires to be given a serious thought. There is a multi-pronged onslaught on our markets. I have seen that the world beauties are used for advertising the products of the multi-nationals. Secondly, I would like to submit that women are not commodities. It is not such an important item, it is vitiating